

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An information recording/reproducing apparatus for recording information on a recording medium and for reproducing recorded information from the recording medium in accordance with a reproducing procedure designated by a user, comprising:

a detecting unit for detecting an unnecessary area on the recording medium where an unnecessary portion of the recorded information which is not to be reproduced according to any one the reproducing procedure; and

an erasing unit for erasing the unnecessary area ~~the recorded information corresponding to the unnecessary portion.~~

2. (currently amended): ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the detecting unit comprises:

a first unit for detecting a necessary area where a necessary portion of the recorded information which is to be reproduced by the reproducing procedure is recorded for all of the reproducing procedure; and

a second unit for determining ~~the an area portion of the recorded information~~ other than the necessary area ~~portion~~ detected by the first unit as the unnecessary area. ~~portion.~~

3. (currently amended): ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when the user finishes editing the reproducing procedure.

4. (currently amended): ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when an instruction to erase the unnecessary portion is inputted by the user.

5. (currently amended): ~~An~~The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when an instruction to eject the recording medium from the apparatus is inputted by the user.

6. (currently amended): A computer readable information recording medium storing a control program readable by a computer apparatus and making the computer apparatus to function as an information recording/reproducing apparatus for recording information on a recording medium and for reproducing recorded information from the recording medium in accordance with a reproducing procedure designated by a user, comprising:

a detecting unit for detecting an unnecessary area on the recording medium where an unnecessary portion of the recorded information which is not to be reproduced according to any one of the reproducing procedure is recorded; and

an erasing unit for erasing the unnecessary area ~~the recorded information corresponding to the unnecessary portion~~.

7. (currently amended): ~~A~~The recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the detecting unit comprises:

a first unit for detecting a necessary area where a necessary portion of the recorded information which is to be reproduced by the reproducing procedure is recorded, for all of the reproducing procedure; and

a second unit for determining the ~~area portion of the recorded information~~ other than the necessary ~~area portion~~ detected by the first unit as the unnecessary ~~area portion~~.

8. (currently amended): ~~A~~The recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the information recording/reproducing apparatus further ~~comprising comprises~~, a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when the user finishes editing the reproducing procedure.

9. (currently amended): ~~A~~The recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the information recording/reproducing apparatus further ~~comprising comprises~~, a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when an instruction to erase the unnecessary portion is inputted by the user.

10. (currently amended): ~~A~~The recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the information recording/reproducing apparatus further ~~comprising comprises~~, a control unit for controlling the detecting unit and the erasing unit to operate when an instruction to eject the recording medium from the apparatus is inputted by the user.

11. (new): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the erasing unit leaves the positions of the necessary area and a second non-contiguous necessary area on the recording medium unchanged.

12. (new): The recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the erasing unit leaves positions of the necessary area and a second non-contiguous necessary area on the recording medium unchanged.

13. (new): An apparatus comprising:  
a pickup; and  
a control circuit, wherein the control circuit detects unnecessary data recorded on a recording medium, and  
wherein the control circuit controls the pickup to erase the unnecessary data.

14. (new): The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the unnecessary data is selected by a user as being unnecessary.

15. (new): The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein positions of non-contiguous unnecessary data, which exist after the unnecessary data is erased, remain unchanged.